

APPENDIX 2.6

April 13, 2010 Public Meeting Agenda, Press Release, Handouts, and Media

A public meeting was held April 13, 2010 at the University of Louisville's Shelby Campus to initiate the planning process. Mayor Jerry Abramson hosted the public meeting, which was attended by approximately 100 people, including journalists and news media. The focus of the Public Meeting was to introduce the planning process, request assistance from the public/private sector and citizens, collect hazard data, and to request partnerships.

Brad Loar, FEMA Region IV, presented at the meeting, as well as General John Heltzel (KyEM Director) and local officials: Doug Hamilton (EMA), Bud Schardein (MSD), and Curt Bynum (LOJIC). In addition, the Advisory Committee officially signed the Partnering Agreement.

The media attended the public meeting and two local TV stations interviewed speakers and the interviews were shown on the noon and evening news at both stations.

Following is the Public Meeting Agenda and the handouts distributed at the meeting. Attendees received a folder with the following inside: Public Meeting Agenda, summary of the Louisville Metro Multi-Hazards Mitigation Plan Five-Year Update process, Project Staff Contact List, Planning and Timeline Requirements, Public Meeting Press Release, and a CRS Program Summary.



Louisville Metro Multi-Hazards Mitigation Plan

University of Louisville, Shelby Campus

April 13, 2010

Public Meeting Agenda

10:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Registration

Photo Op/Press for Mayor, Region IV, State, and Local Staffs

10:30 a.m.

Welcome

Bob Smith, Louisville Metro Multi-Hazards Advisory Committee Chair

Introduce the Mayor

Doug Hamilton, Director

Louisville Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency/Metrosafe Communications

Opening Comments

Jerry E. Abramson

Louisville Metro Mayor

CRS Plaque Ceremony

National and Regional Mitigation Perspective

Brad Loar, Director Mitigation Division

FEMA Region IV

State Mitigation Perspective

General John Heltzel, Director

KY Division of Emergency Management

National and Regional Planning Perspective

Dr. David Simpson

U of L Center for Hazards Research

Flood Mitigation Programs, MSD

Bud Schardein

Louisville & Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District

Local Plan Process

Doug Hamilton, Director

Louisville Metro EMA/Metrosafe Communications

LOJIC and Mapping

Curt Bynum

Partnering Agreement Signing Ceremony

Next Steps and Closing Comments

Bob Smith



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 12, 2010

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Louisville to Initiate Five-Year Update to the Multi-Hazards Mitigation Planning Effort

MAYOR TO HOST INFORMATIONAL PUBLIC MEETING ON APRIL 13

LOUISVILLE (April 12, 2010) –Mayor Jerry Abramson will host a public meeting to kick off the area’s natural hazards mitigation planning process. This process is required under federal law to help communities to better prepare for natural and hazardous-materials disaster events and to ensure communities are eligible for federal grants to support mitigation planning.

The meeting will be held at the University of Louisville, Shelby Campus, in Founder’s Hall from 10 am-12:30 pm, Tuesday April 13, 2010.

Presentations and handouts will be provided to attendees to explain the planning process and how citizens and local organizations can get involved.

The Louisville Metro Emergency Management Agency (EMA) is partnering with the Louisville/Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) and LOJIC for the Louisville Metro Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. The partners have convened a stakeholder group of over 60 local agencies, organizations, and citizens. To show support, the stakeholders will be signing a formal partnering agreement during the public meeting.

FEMA will present the Mayor with a plaque for attaining a Class 5 Rating in the voluntary Community Rating System (CRS) program.

Louisville is one of 11,000 communities in the CRS program and in the top 3 percent of the nation due to the Class 5 Rating. The CRS program rates communities by their effort to initiate mapping and regulatory plans, provide public information, and for flood preparedness activities. The Class 5 Rating entitles Metro residents to receive up to a 25% reduction on their flood insurance rates.

Louisville Metro already has a strong foundation for the mitigation planning process through its past emergency management and mapping efforts. At the meeting, FEMA, state, and local representatives will provide more detail regarding mitigation planning requirements, the planning process, and assessing vulnerability. This is an opportunity for the public to be involved in the process.

"To help us be better prepared for a countywide natural disaster, it is important that our community develop a strategy to mitigate losses," Doug Hamilton, Louisville Metro EMA Director.

About 150 participants are expected to attend the meeting. In addition to Abramson, speakers include: Kentucky Division of Emergency Management Director, Brigadier General John Heltzel; Federal Emergency Management Agency Mitigation Director, Brad Loar; Louisville Metro EMA Director Doug Hamilton; Louisville/Jefferson County MSD Executive Director Bud Schardein, LOJIC staff, and other experts in hazard risk assessment and mitigation planning.

Louisville Metro

Multi-Hazards Mitigation Plan Five-Year Update

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Louisville Metro

Multi-Hazards Mitigation Plan Five-Year Update

Planning & Timeline Requirements

The Planning Process

- Public Meeting: Open Public Involvement
- Review and Incorporation of Materials

April 13, 2010

Risk Assessment

- Identifying Hazards
- Profiling Hazard Events
- Assessing Vulnerability: Identifying Assets and Estimating Potential Losses
- Analyzing Development Trends

Mitigation Strategy

- Develop Local Hazard Mitigation Goals
- Identification and Analysis of Mitigation Measures
- Implementation of Mitigation Measures

Plan Maintenance Procedures

- Monitoring, Evaluating & Updating the Plan
- Implementation Through Existing Programs
- Continued Public Involvement

KYEM Plan Review

Public Meetings

Adoption by Local Governing Body

November 2010

EMA website: <http://www.louisvilleky.gov/EMA/>

Community Rating System (CRS) Program Overview

The National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. Under the CRS, there is an incentive for communities to do more than just regulate construction of new buildings to minimum national standards. Communities earn credit by engaging in 18 activities organized under four categories: Public Information, Mapping and Regulations, Flood Damage Reduction, and Flood Preparedness. CRS class designation is determined by how many credits a community earns through these activities. CRS classes range from a Class 9 (requiring 500-999 CRS credits) to a Class 1 (requiring 4,500 or more CRS credits).



Under the CRS, flood insurance premiums are adjusted to reflect community activities that reduce flood damage to existing buildings, manage development in areas not mapped by the NFIP, protect new buildings beyond the minimum NFIP protection level, help insurance agents obtain flood data, and help people obtain flood insurance. For CRS participating communities, flood insurance premium rates are discounted in increments of 5%; i.e., a Class 1 community would receive a 45% premium discount, while a Class 9 community would receive a 5%.

As a result, flood insurance premium rates are discounted to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from the community actions meeting the three goals of the CRS:

1. Reduce flood losses;
2. Facilitate accurate insurance rating; and
3. Promote the awareness of flood insurance.

Nationwide there are 1,100 communities receiving flood insurance premium discounts based on their implementation of local mitigation, outreach, and educational activities that go well beyond minimum NFIP requirements. While premium discounts are one of the benefits of participation in CRS, it is more important that these communities are carrying out activities that save lives and reduce property damage. These 1,100 communities represent a significant portion of the Nation's flood risk as evidenced by the fact that over 66% of the NFIP's policy base is located in these communities. Communities receiving premium discounts through the CRS cover a full range of sizes from small to large, and a broad mixture of flood risks including coastal and riverine.

CRS			
Credit Points Earned	Class Rating	Premium Reduction	
		SFHA*	Non-SFHA**
4,500+	1	45%	5%
4,000 – 4,499	2	40%	5%
3,500 – 3,999	3	35%	5%
3,000 – 3,499	4	30%	5%
2,500 – 2,999	5	25%	5%
2,000 – 2,499	6	20%	5%
1,500 – 1,999	7	15%	5%
1,000 – 1,499	8	10%	5%
500 – 999	9	5%	5%
0 – 499	10	0	0

Louisville Metro CRS Rating: The Louisville/Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) is the CRS program coordinator for Louisville Metro and is responsible for completion of most of the CRS activities. Currently, Louisville Metro has a Class 5 Rating and receives a 25% discount on flood insurance premium rates. A Class 5 is the highest-class rating in the State of Kentucky, and this means that over 6,600 policyholders will benefit from a reduction in annual flood insurance premiums.

Louisville Metro

Multi-Hazards Mitigation Plan

Five-Year Update Process

Executive Summary

Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning: Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000: The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) is a regulation to improve the hazard mitigation planning process. As a local community, Louisville Metro is required to develop a comprehensive Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan. The legislation reinforces the importance of mitigation planning in emphasizing planning for disasters before they occur. As such, DMA 2000 establishes a “pre-disaster hazard mitigation” program and new requirements for the post-disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).

DMA 2000 is intended to facilitate cooperation between state and local authorities as it encourages and rewards local, tribal, and state pre-disaster planning and promotes sustainability as a strategy for disaster resistance. This enhanced planning network better enables local and state governments to articulate their needs for mitigation, resulting in faster allocation of funding and more effective risk reduction projects. As a result, communities must have an approved mitigation plan in place before receiving HMGP funds.

Summary of the Benefits of Mitigation Planning

- Leads to cost-effective selection of risk reduction actions
- Builds Partnerships
- Contributes to sustainable communities
- Establishes funding profiles

Five Year Update: DMA 2000 requires local communities to update the Hazards Mitigation Plan on a five-year cycle. The 2010 Plan update will be renamed a Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan and follow all guidance issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Community Rating System (CRS). In addition, the update will include Hazardous Materials (Haz-Mat) as a Man-Made Hazard to be profiled for a risk assessment analysis. The updated Plan will utilize the same planning process as the original plan and stakeholders will again be at the center of the process.

The updated Plan will be based on “best available data.” The Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Project Staff will collect information and best available data to analyze the hazards for a Risk Assessment. In Louisville Metro, an enhanced inventory of local structures and public infrastructure will provide a more realistic determination of the vulnerability to the hazards that impact Metro.

Planning Partners: The Louisville Metro Emergency Management Agency (EMA) is primarily responsible for the coordination and development of the local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Collaborating with EMA on the Plan are both the Louisville & Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) and Louisville/Jefferson County Information Consortium (LOJIC). LOJIC’s GIS data and mapping capabilities provides Louisville Metro a perfect vehicle for designing a premier mitigation plan.

To ensure commitment and consensus, Louisville Metro’s planning process will again rely on stakeholder involvement and participation as a main source of guidance for all phases of the Plan. Additionally, stakeholder involvement ensures the Plan is comprehensive and that the mitigation strategy is implemented through local programs and regulations.

Plan Update Outline: Areas at-risk in Louisville Metro will be identified, mapped, assessed, and vulnerabilities will be determined so that an appropriate mitigation strategy can be developed. The Plan will contain the following five phases:

1. Prerequisites – Adoption of Governing Body
2. Description of the Planning Process
3. Risk Assessment
4. Mitigation Strategies
5. Plan Maintenance Procedures

Adoption by Local Governing Body: Metro Council will be required to adopt the Louisville Metro Multi-Hazards Mitigation Plan by Resolution.

Risk Assessment: A comprehensive analysis and review will be completed for Louisville Metro's vulnerabilities. Throughout the Risk Assessment, maps will be used whenever possible to convey where the spatial data and at-risk areas are located. Maps also provide an invaluable GIS visual tool for analysis. The Risk Assessment will be divided into five sections, as follows.

- Identifying Hazards
- Profiling Hazard Events
- Assessing Vulnerability: Identifying Assets
- Assessing Vulnerability: Estimating Potential Losses
- Assessing Vulnerability: Analyzing Development Trends

Identifying Hazards: Due to Louisville's climate, geology, and geographical setting, the Metro area is vulnerable to 12 natural hazards that threaten life and property. As a result, conditions, such as topography, soil characteristics, and meteorological conditions will be reviewed. The Plan update will include identification of hazards where there is a historical record of damage caused to people and property or where the potential for such damage exists.

Profiling Hazard Events: The hazard profiles will target the "at-risk" areas affected by each identified hazard. The purpose of the profiles is to determine the probability, magnitude, and the location and extent that each identified hazard may impact the Louisville Metro area. The profiles will focus on past hazard events and their severity and resulting effects on transportation, safety, and economics.

Identifying Assets: The identification of assets will provide sufficient information to enable the design of a mitigation strategy. Information used to identify the assets will be gathered from resources such as local tax and real estate records, local public works and utilities department infrastructure records, Census data, and GIS databases. Based on the analysis of this information, the Plan will describe vulnerability in terms of the types and numbers of existing and future buildings, infrastructure, and critical facilities.

Estimating Potential Losses: Loss estimations for each hazard will include the vulnerable population, structures and facilities, economic activity, and environmental resources that are exposed. Louisville Metro's degree of vulnerability will depend upon the risk of a particular natural hazard occurring (including such factors as scope, frequency, intensity, and destructive potential).

**Louisville Metro Vulnerable
to 12 Natural Hazards**

Dam Failure
Drought
Earthquake
Extreme Heat
Flooding
Hailstorms
Karst / Sinkholes
Landslides
Thunderstorms / Lightning
Tornados
Wildfire
Winter Storms

Analyzing Development Trends: The Plan will provide a general description of land uses and development trends within the community so that mitigation options are considered in future land use decisions. All local land use and zoning plans, GIS data, ordinances, emergency operation procedures, and comprehensive plans will be reviewed for hazard data.

Ranking Natural Hazards: The Hazard Risk Gauge will again provide a qualitative assessment of the hazards that could occur in Louisville Metro.

Mitigation Strategy: The mitigation strategy will provide a blueprint for reducing the potential losses identified in the risk assessments. The Mitigation Strategy will outline potential losses and existing mitigation programs and focus on projects that address protecting lives, infrastructure, and the economy.



Five-Year Action Plan: The Mitigation Action Plan will respond to the Risk Assessment with projects and activities to mitigate Louisville's multi-hazards. An updated five-year Action Plan will recommend mitigation projects that can be integrated into job descriptions, comprehensive plans, capital improvement plans, zoning and building codes, and other planning tools. The Action Plan will also outline projects that allow our community to make informed future land use and zoning decisions, design better infrastructure, and keep the public out of harm's way. Included in the Action Plan will be both an implementation timeline and the funding sources to implement each of the mitigation projects. For program funding, the mitigation measures in the Action Plan must be cost effective, environmentally sound, and technically feasible and shovel-ready to submit for various grant programs for funding.

Plan Maintenance Procedures: The Plan will describe the method and schedule of monitoring, evaluating, and updating the Mitigation Plan within a five-year cycle. When updated, the Plan will be reviewed, revised, and resubmitted to the State Hazard Mitigation Officer at Kentucky Division of Emergency Management and to FEMA Region IV. As appropriate, the Plan also will be evaluated after a disaster, or after unexpected changes in land use or demographics in or near hazard areas.

WAVE News

Kentuckiana leaders plan for handling multi-hazard disaster

Posted: Apr 13, 2010 6:38 PM EDT Updated: Apr 14, 2010 8:04 AM EDT

By Dale Mader

LOUISVILLE, KY (WAVE) - Louisville has had its share of natural disasters in the past year. To build a stronger, more resilient Metro area, a group of local leaders met April 13 at the University of Louisville Shelby Campus.

Every five years since 2000, the federal government has required local governments to update a multi-hazards mitigation plan to help communities plan and cope with possible natural disasters.

"The intent of this committee is to come up with projects that we can specifically go after federal funding for to help mitigate the effects of disasters that we know we can't stop," said Doug Hamilton, director of Louisville Metro Emergency Management Agency.

Dam failure, drought, and hailstorms are some of the top twelve hazards that Louisville is considered most vulnerable to. Flooding has been a more common concern, especially for Bud Schardein.

"Since the '97 flood we've built over one billion gallons of inland flood storage basins which has reduced the flood plains of neighborhoods all over the community," said Schardein, executive director of MSD.

Mayor Jerry Abramson accepted a Class 5 rating award from a regional FEMA director for the work being done locally to plan for disaster events in the metro area

"We're recognized now as one of the top three cities in the US as far as what we do in preemptive action to flooding and what we do during flooding," Schardein said.

While the multi-hazard plan update is only required every five years, this meeting was the culmination of work between local, state and national agencies that have tried to anticipate for years what mother nature will have in store for us.

"Each time we jumped back up and try to do whatever was necessary to recover from that incident, I think we've shown that we are in fact a resilient city," Hamilton said.

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60 agencies update disaster plans

Posted: Apr 13, 2010 12:24 PM EDT

Planning for future disasters

Top Stories

60 agencies update disaster plans

Last August, flash flooding cost millions of dollars of losses to homes and businesses. Earlier in the year, the city was struck by a devastating windstorm, and in September of 2008, a windstorm.

Bud Schardein of the Metro Sewer District says the lesson learned is to get people out of harm's way, especially events such as flash flooding that you cannot control.

Another way to protect people against flooding would be for the government to buy some of the homes that were flooded. Louisville is ranked in the top 3% of communities in how it responds to natural disasters.

According to FEMA, that's good news because it means local residents can receive up to a 25% reduction in flood insurance rates.



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